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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Yasuji Yui

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EXAMINER

DADA, BEEMNET W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2435

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/03/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/642,979	Applicant(s) YUI ET AL.	
	Examiner BEEMNET W. DADA	Art Unit 2435	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in reply to an amendment filed on December 12, 2008. Claims 1-9 have been amended and new claims 10-12 have been added. Claims 1-12 are pending.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huber et al. US 2002/0059588 A1 (hereinafter Huber) in view of Kliland et al. US 2002/0065905 A1 (hereinafter kliland).

As per claim 1, Huber teaches an electronic device controlling apparatus comprising:
a communication device that communicates with electronic devices [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];
a storage that stores personal identification information and personal information in correspondence with each other (i.e., user information database, paragraph 0028);

a receiver that receives the personal identification information, wherein the electronic device acquires the personal identification information from a remote controller corresponding to the electronic device [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];

a search device that searches the storage for the personal information corresponding to the personal identification information received by the receiver [paragraphs 0028 and 0030]; and

a controller that based on the personal information searched for by the search device, causes the communication device to transmit a control signal to the electronic device [paragraphs 0030 and 0034]. Huber is silent on receiving and transmitting device identification information corresponding to the electronic device.

In the same field of endeavor, Kliland teaches a personalized equipment arrangement system, including, receiving the personal identification information and device identification information corresponding to the electronic device from the electronic device and transmitting a control signal to the electronic device corresponding to the device identification information the control signal being based on the personal information [paragraph 0047]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to employ the teachings of Kliland within the system of Huber in order to enhance the security of the system.

As per claim 4, Huber teaches an electronic device controlling system comprising:
one or more electronic devices [paragraphs 0028 and 0030]; an electronic device controlling apparatus [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];
one or more remote controllers for transmitting personal identification information to the one or more electronic devices [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];
the one or more electronic devices transmitting the personal identification information and to the electronic device controlling apparatus [paragraphs 0028 and 0030] and

the electronic device controlling apparatus being connected to the one or more electronic devices-and being capable of controlling the one or more electronic devices [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];

wherein the electronic device controlling apparatus includes:

a communication device for communicating with the one or more electronic devices [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];

a receiver for receiving the personal identification information from an electronic device [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];

a storage for storing the personal identification information, and personal information, in correspondence with each other (i.e., user information database, paragraph 0028);

a search device for searching the storage for the personal information corresponding to the personal identification information received by the receiver [paragraphs 0028 and 0030]; and a controller for, based on the personal information searched for by the search device, causing the communication device up, it to transmit a control signal to the electronic device [paragraphs 0030 and 0034]. Huber is silent on receiving and transmitting device identification information corresponding to the electronic device.

In the same field of endeavor, Kliland teaches a personalized equipment arrangement system, including, receiving the personal identification information and device identification information corresponding to the electronic device from the electronic device and transmitting a control signal to the electronic device corresponding to the device identification information the control signal being based on the personal information [paragraph 0047]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to employ the teachings of Kliland within the system of Huber in order to enhance the security of the system.

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As per claim 7, Huber teaches an electronic device controlling method comprising:
causing a remote controller to transmit personal identification information to an electronic device corresponding to the remote controller [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];
receiving the personal identification information [paragraphs 0028 and 0030];
searching for personal information corresponding to the personal identification information in a storage which stores the personal identification information and the personal information (i.e., user profiles and preferences) in correspondence with each other [paragraph 0030]; and

transmitting a control signal to the electronic device, the control signal being based on the personal information [paragraphs 0030 and 0034]. Huber is silent on receiving and transmitting device identification information corresponding to the electronic device.

In the same field of endeavor, Kliland teaches a personalized equipment arrangement system, including, receiving the personal identification information and device identification information corresponding to the electronic device from the electronic device and transmitting a control signal to the electronic device corresponding to the device identification information the control signal being based on the personal information [paragraph 0047]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to employ the teachings of Kliland within the system of Huber in order to enhance the security of the system.

As per claims 2, 5 and 8, Huber further teaches the device wherein the storage stores the personal identification information, the personal information and priority information about plurality of persons [paragraphs 0028 and 0030].

As per claim 3, 6 and 9, Huber further teaches the device wherein the receiver receives the personal identification information for a plurality of persons and the controller determines priorities of the plurality of persons on the basis of the personal information and priority information corresponding to the personal identification information received by the receiver about the plurality of persons, the controller transmitting the control signal reflecting the priorities of the plurality of persons to the electronic devices [paragraphs 0028 and 0030].

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12 are allowed.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BEEMNET W. DADA whose telephone number is (571)272-3847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 am - 5:30 pm).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Beemnet W Dada/
Examiner, Art Unit 2435
March 01, 2009